

House Resolution No. 282

Whereas, it is with special pleasure that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize the Bank of Advance in Advance, Missouri, which celebrated its One Hundredth Anniversary on January 30, 2002; and

Whereas, the oldest business in Advance in continuous operation, the Bank of Advance was established on January 30, 1902, and made its first home in a small frame building located on the northwest corner of Gabriel and Ash streets before relocating to the southeast corner of Gabriel and Cypress streets; and

Whereas, in 1906, a two-story, concrete block building was erected on the corner of Sturdivant and Ash where the Bank remained until a new facility was constructed at Ash and Gabriel in 1972; and

Whereas, the Bank of Advance began to process checking transactions with the aid of a computer processing center in 1970, installed an in-house computer system that automated all account transactions in 1981, purchased its first personal computer in 1986, obtained the first ATM in Advance in 1995, and began issuing debit cards in 1998; and

Whereas, the Bank of Advance has gone through several expansions to accommodate its impressive growth in the past twenty-five years, during which time its assets have increased from less than \$20 million in 1977 to \$125 million today while its growth includes a deposit facility in Bell City, a full-service banking center in Dexter, and a new building that houses the Bank's loan department and offices, board room, and training facilities; and

Whereas, owned by the Miles family since 1950, the Bank of Advance is the only existing banking institution chartered in Stoddard County to have survived The Great Depression; and

Whereas, the Bank of Advance has been serving the financial needs of Stoddard County since 1902 and continues to do so with its stellar Board of Directors, management, and employees, all of whom express their great appreciation to their loyal friends and customers for their generous support over the years:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-first General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations to President Harold Miles, Jr., Executive Vice President Neil Miles, and Vice President Melinda Rainey, and to all the dedicated employees of the Bank of Advance as they proudly celebrate this momentous occasion in the their rich history as the oldest bank in Stoddard County; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the Bank of Advance.

Offered by _____
Representative Rob Mayer
District No. 159

I, Jim Kreider, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-first General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 282, adopted February 12, 2002.

Jim Kreider, Speaker

